

TECHNOLOGICAL INFLUENCE IN RESEARCH DURING COVID 19

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ABSTRACT

Humanistic research methodologies like interview or story telling have got the ability to recreate it's traditional structure with the help of advanced technologies in this period of pandemic. The successful completion of an individuals research was made possible with the help of the various digital applications amidst this turmoil. A secondary research has been conducted in thi-+s regard in understanding the advantages of virtual and telephonic interviewing.

KEY WORDS

Interview, Digital Presence, Virtual Interviewing, Telephonic Interviewing

INTRODUCTION

The onset of the pandemic has brought in severe changes in terms of lifestyle, education, thinking capacity and many more. The growing intervention of digital platforms can be counted as one. The digital presence thus creating a virtual space is not only restricted to communications across the globe but it has also embarked on the path of performing social work like accumulation of necessary medicines, medical facilities, money for the treatment of the victims of Covid-19. The digital presence has reformed our mindset from a social being to a more technologically equipped being.

DISCUSSIONS

This digital presence has functioned as a hindrance towards the humanistic research methodologies like interview or storytelling. Covid-19 has not only provided us with the education of survival with basic minimal resources but it has also reiterated the fact that with time everything changes and these changes must be welcomed whole heartedly for one's progression. Interview involves a form of interaction between the interviewer and the respondents on the basis of a set of questions to gather information which can be used for one's research in the field of social sciences. Structured, Unstructured, Group, Gendered, Electronic interviewing are different types of interview.

EXAMPLE 1 :

A research was conducted during this pandemic aiming to understand the process of virtual interviewing, it's efficacy as a tool of replacing the usual format of face to face interview or in person interview. The respondents of this research mainly comprised of people from the medical fraternity. Through this conduction of research it was seen that virtual interview could secure a more preferable and advantageous position as face to face interview would perform. The respondents said that they welcomed the idea of virtual interview through the help of various digital platforms like Zoom, Skype, face time and others. There were respondents who were applicants for the pediatric surgery fellowship and their answered showcased the virtual interviewing as an effective screening tool. Interview conducted in this manner helps in saving a considerable amount of onsite interviewing time and also contributes to vast financial benefits. Usually the long travelling to fields help in spending a generous amount of money and might also lead to unsystematic usage of the amount kept for other requirements of the research when funded by a particular organization. Time plays a major role in this regard as it reduces the researchers travelling. Interviewees could also participate in the interview from their respective residential areas or any other locations during their vacations. The interview thus helps people to

bring respondents to answer in a more relaxed way. The internet has made it possible in bringing all the people together under one roof with the help of one single click.

EXAMPLE 2 :

Another research was conducted to assess the awareness regarding Covid-19 and the problems faced by young adults suffering from type 1 diabetes mellitus. Telephonic interview was the method by which the researcher had to gather information. The telephonic interview maintains an increase in privacy for the respondents. Since in this type of interview the intrusion is less it reduced their distraction. They were also conferred with greater control in terms of negotiating the time of conducting the interview as per the schedule of their work. The interviewers on the other hand become less self conscious while taking down the notes. Thus the information and the communication technology has again proved its importance in this testing time.

CONCLUSION

This notion can be formed that interview still holds a significant relevance despite the sudden presence of digital media in this pandemic. Although the purest form, which is the face to face interview cannot be as frequently seen due to the prevailing time scenario. This reformed character of interview initially might have caused hindrance to the researchers but it has also helped them to acquire the technical learning of electronic gadgets, with these new applications into being one can change the background of the person into a formal set up while taking the interview for educational research or official purposes, record it instantly by clicking the record option. Earlier tape recorders were a major instrument carried by interviewer but with the advancement of technology it has lost its importance. It can thus be said that the essence of interview has been very much in relevance but in a recreated form during the pandemic and has helped many people in innumerable ways.

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